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CLASSIFICATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~COUNTRY Soviet Zone of GermanyTOPIC ZERBST AirfieldEVALUATION See below

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT See belowDATE PREPARED 1 November 1949

25X1

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 2 Blueprints

REMARKS

Document No. 001No Change in Class. ☐☐ Reclassified

Class. Changed To: TS S (C) 25X1

Auth.: HR 72.2

Date: 11/1/49**RETURN TO CIA LIBRARY**

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30 September 1949

1. There was no flying at the ZERBST (W 52/1 98) airfield between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. because of bad visibility. The hangars were closed. Thirty to forty fighters with red propeller hubs and probably radial engines, were parked in two rows north of the hangars. A radio station with a small cabin and four masts set in a square was located on the southern edge of the landing field. Another mobile radio station was in a small woods north of the airfield. Three well camouflaged heavy antiaircraft guns were emplaced near the target range on the northern edge of the airfield. A fuel dump was observed near the spur track in the northern section of the field.

2.

1 to 30 September 1949

3. The ZERBST airfield (location see Annex 1) was occupied by single-engine or twin-engine aircraft and jet fighters. All jet fighters were parked in a large hangar with a capacity of 30 planes at most. Description of jet fighters: Swept-back wings conspicuously short, rounded-off at tips, strikingly high, angular rudder assembly, small rounded elevator assembly (see Annex 2).
4. The jet fighters performed individual flights in good weather only, as observed on 28 and 29 September 1949, but the single-engine aircraft frequently practiced formation flying in groups up to 12 planes.

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5. Twelve about 80-mm antiaircraft guns were emplaced near the target range north of the airfield. The repair of the spur track was completed in mid-September 1949.

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[] Comment:

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a. According to this report, the ZERBUT airfield is occupied by at least one fighter regiment equipped with LA fighters. [] indicate that this regiment has previously been stationed here. Jet aircraft have been observed at the field since late July 1949. According to the report, probably not more than 30 jet aircraft are stationed in ZERBUT. According to both the plane description and the attached sketch, a jet aircraft type with swept-back wings is concerned.

b. The pronounced sweep-back of the wings indicates that the jet aircraft was probably an MIG design.

c. The number of jet aircraft at the ZERBUT airfield has possibly been increased in the meantime since a train loaded with 22 aircraft destined for the ZERBUT field was observed in FRANKFURT/oder on 17 September 1949 +.

d. The presence of antiaircraft gun emplacements on the northern edge of the ZERBUT airfield was observed in mid-September 1949. + +

2 ANNEXES: (1) Airfield of ZERBUT
(2) Jet Aircraft Observed at the Airfield of ZERBUT

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